

ALL THE STARS ALIGNED – An Explanation... “*It is history that teaches us to hope.*” – R.E. Lee



RAISE THE ARM!!!



It would seem that the stars are all aligned for a very special event in Amesbury, Massachusetts this coming May. Since Amesbury's Bartlett Museum was again seeking to hold another Civil War encampment and, due to the fact that three Gettysburg monuments were demolished earlier this year things just seemed to fall into place for a public “free” event designed to drum up support and donations for the dual purposes of monument restoration and historical preservation.

Last year, the Civil War Encampment was such a success, that we determined to hold a two-day event this year, appropriately falling upon ***Armed Forces Day (Sat., 20 May)*** and ***Tourist in Your Hometown Day (Sun, 21 May)***. We felt that this would be a great draw, especially with the exhibit (AMESBURY AT WAR) and that Civil War era gem – the Home of John Greenleaf Whittier. (Reenactors are sure to be amazed!)

In honor of troops still serving in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Museum board determined to “hold-over” and improve its fine exhibit: **AMESBURY AT WAR: A Tradition of Service & Sacrifice**. A major draw to the exhibit is the battlefield diorama of Hatcher's Run, a battle in which the 11th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and the 5th Massachusetts Light Artillery were engaged. Thus we figured on pairing the two current impressionist units (bearing those names) together in a joint (two-day) venture with assorted freelance reenactors and living history specialists, but alas, more was to follow...



When vandals maliciously tore down three monuments at Gettysburg this February, one of them happened to be that of the 11th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry (its sword having only been restored in 2000). Ironically, the 5th MASS Lt. Artillery had been situated, in that very battle, only a short distance behind the 11th MASS men. It is believed that the shattered granite raised arm with its now stolen Miles Standish sword may be the only U.S. monument of that type. It is also ironic that the raised arm is the part of the Massachusetts state seal that is imprinted upon patches and pins not only of the state police, but also (appropriately) of our MASS National Guard troops currently serving at home and abroad.

Many individuals and units have stepped-up to the plate to help out and, at this point the Civil War Encampment event has built up into, potentially, ten times the size of last year's event. Therefore, plans are under weigh to move the encampment to the Woodsom Farm. There are still a number of logistical arrangements to work out, but we are dedicated, determined, and committed to **Raise the Arm!** (photo courtesy of Christopher Gwinn, AHS Graduate and Gettysburg College Senior.) {To Participate or for event details, Contact: historicusrex@yahoo.com}



The Jancewicz Family at the Monument 2003

About the Organizer:

Paul Jancewicz, president of Amesbury's Bartlett Museum, VFW member and local history teacher is directly descended from Private John Black who served with the 11th MASS Volunteer Infantry. Jancewicz bases his character on Capt. Luther Dame (an abolitionist school teacher) who buried Black and it is because of this that Jancewicz recently completed a paper about local abolitionists from the Merrimack River Valley entitled "MERRIMACK RIVER TROUBLE-MAKERS: FIVE ANTI-SLAVERY ACTIVISTS OF THE LOWER MERRIMACK VALLEY OF MASSACHUSETTS WHO FUELED ONE ANOTHER AND FANNED THE FIRES OF CIVIL WAR. He is confident that cooperative efforts will restore the monument honoring the 219 men who were killed or wounded at that location in Gettysburg. Amesbury's Bartlett Museum phone: 978.388.4528



2003



2006

RAISE THE ARM!!!

Donations may be made to THE BARTLETT MUSEUM designating: "Raise the Arm!"

In UNITY for CHARITY, RESTORATION, PRESERVATION & REMEMBRANCE!

“ALL’S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!”

Inscription at the base of the monument.

"Strange is our situation here upon earth. Each of us comes for a short visit, not knowing why, yet sometimes seeming to divine a purpose. From the standpoint of daily life, however, there is one thing I do know: that we are here for the sake of each other, above all, for those upon whose smile and well-being our own happiness depends, and also for the countless unknown souls with whose fate we are connected by a bond of sympathy. Many times a day I realize how much my own outer and inner life is built upon the labors of others, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received and am still receiving."

- Albert Einstein

A founding member of the “BOSTON VOLUNTEERS”

11th MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY Civil War Era Military Impressionists

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